

Personal Finance

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Course Description

This course is designed to prepare students to take on and understand the idea of being a smart consumer in our global economy. Areas of personal finance that will be covered include: Consumerism, Financial Institutions and Banking Services, Savings and Investment, Credit, Insurance, Taxes and Financial Management.

Course Objectives

Students will evaluate purchase decisions with knowledge and wise consumer understanding
Students will understand the buying decision making process
Students will understand the effects that the economy has on buying decisions
Students will know the different types of financial institutions
Students will apply their knowledge of financial institutions in selecting the right institution
Students will understand the use and function of checking accounts
Students will apply their knowledge in maintaining their own checking account
Students will understand the 3 C's of credit
Students will know the uses, benefits, and precautions of credit
Students will apply their knowledge of credit in using credit in a controlled scenario.
Students will use credit in the use of an installment loan in the examples of car, home, and student loans
Students will know their credit rights
Students will understand how to save and budget
Students will create their own savings and budgeting plan
Students will complete an individual tax return
Students will prepare for their financial futures with retirement plans and savings plans.
Students will know how to protect their financial lives with insurance products.

Course Policies/Expectations

Students are expected to behave and conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the expectations in the Woodward-Granger Middle & High School Student/Parent Handbook. Specific classroom rules for Introduction to Business include:

- Students are expected to treat their classmates, teachers, and guests with respect.
- Students must be prepared for the daily activities with proper materials, completed work, and a willingness to learn and engage with their peers and teacher.
- Students must follow the school's Electronic Device policy. Cell Phones are **NOT** permitted at anytime during the period. During designated times and only by my discretion, I **WILL** allow its use as a MP3 players/iPods/ Calculator. If the use of these devices becomes inappropriate, the opportunity to use these devices will be taken away.
- Students are expected to be active participants in the learning experience and work with their peers and teachers to achieve the course objectives that will prepare them for the 21st century
- Snacks and Water (No Colored Beverages) ARE allowed, however if the room is not kept clean the privilege will be taken away.

Tardy Policy

The school handbook allows for 5 tardies before a Saturday School is given. In my classroom the policy is as follows for the initial tardies.

1st Tardy - Verbal Warning

2nd - 4th - 25 Minutes with teacher (Bring work or be put to work)

The Learning Process

Preparedness Policy (5%)

Students need to complete all formative assessments to the best of their ability and be prepared for the learning experience when due. This skill, critical to the workplace/post-secondary education, will be assessed by the following.

- 1 – Prepared
- 0 – Unprepared

*****If the student is aware of an upcoming **planned absence** (extra-curricular activities, vacation, doctor appointment, dentist, etc..) or **gone due to illness**, they must see me to determine the learning that will be missed and the expected turn in date based on the absence.

***Unexcused or un-communicated absences**, the work is counted as unprepared and will follow the preparedness policy.

(Ex. On the due date, the student has a doctors appointment and misses the class but is at school for the rest of the day and does not submit the work.)

Formative Assessments (5%)

Students will be given daily opportunities throughout their learning to demonstrate understanding of skills and concepts. All formative assessments will be assessed using the rubric listed below.

- 4 - Exceeds Expectations** - Student demonstrates a high level of understanding for the targeted skill or concept.
- 3 - Secure** - Student can apply the skill or concept correctly and independently
- 2 - Developing** - Student shows some understanding. Reminders, hints, suggestions are needed for understanding.
- 1 - Beginning** - Student shows little understanding of the concept. Additional teacher support is needed.
- 0 - Insufficient Data** - No submission of work.

Re-Work Policy (All Formative Assessments)

Once formative assessments have been completed, turned in and reviewed, those students who did not demonstrate learning at a **Secure level or higher**, will be expected to **Re-Work** the formative assessment until they can demonstrate that they are **Secure** in their learning. To assist the students in the Re-Work of their formative assessments, **Hawk Time** is available for the students each day to receive the supports necessary to reach the **Secure level** as well as other times arranged by the student/teacher. Re-Works **MUST** be completed by the Summative Assessment or the level stays the same as what was initially assessed.

*****Once the **Secure level is reached** the reworking of the formative assessment is **done**. You may **NOT** rework a Secure Level grade to **Exceeds Expectations** due to the fact that you demonstrated competence in the skill or concept.

Summative Assessments (65%)

Students will be asked to demonstrate their application of the skills and concepts in a summative test, project or other proof of their learning. The summative assessment will not be given the opportunity to be Re-Worked as it is the final time for the students to indicate what they know after the learning and practice has been completed.

Final (25%)

The personal finance final will be a cumulative final conducted at the end of the semester. It will be an assessment to demonstrate the essential personal finance concepts expected of students to leave Woodward-Granger with an understanding of how to be successful in the real world.